General Assembly

Distr.: General
3 December 2008

Sixty-third session
Agenda item 64

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/63/L.31)*]

63/25. Commemoration of the sixtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes, principles and provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, which include the promotion of, and respect for, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all,

Recalling its resolution 62/171 of 18 December 2007 entitled "International Year of Human Rights Learning", in which it decided to commemorate the sixtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[1] at a plenary meeting to be held on 10 December 2008,

Recalling also its resolution 2217 A (XXI) of 19 December 1966, in which it decided to award at five-year intervals the United Nations award for outstanding achievements in the field of human rights,

1. *Reaffirms* its decision to commemorate the sixtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[1] on 10 December 2008;

2. *Decides* that the commemorative event will comprise a plenary meeting, including the award ceremony for the United Nations prize in the field of human rights, and two consecutive informal interactive panel discussions;

3. *Encourages* all Member States and observers to participate at the highest level possible;

4. *Decides* that the President of the General Assembly, the President of the Human Rights Council, the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights will address the commemorative plenary meeting;

5. *Invites* intergovernmental organizations and entities that have observer status with the General Assembly, relevant entities of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council to be represented at the commemorative event;

[1] Resolution 217 A (III).

6. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly, in consultation with Member States and with the technical support of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to draw up, no later than 30 November 2008, a list of two representatives of pertinent non-governmental organizations for each of the informal interactive panel discussions who will speak on behalf of civil society, and to circulate the list to Member States to be considered on a no-objection basis;

7. *Also requests* the President of the General Assembly, in consultation with Member States and with the technical support of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to finalize the organizational arrangements for the commemorative event, including the identification of themes and the assignment of panellists for the informal interactive panel discussions;

8. *Further requests* the President of the General Assembly to hold open consultations with Member States and observers in order to prepare a brief declaration reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the commitment for its full implementation, to be adopted by consensus at the commemorative plenary meeting.

57th plenary meeting
24 November 2008